
Introduced by Senator Cox

February 7, 2006

An act to amend Section 2416 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1246, as introduced, Cox. Vehicles: authorized emergency vehicles.

Existing law authorizes the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol to issue authorized emergency vehicle permits only for specified vehicles, and then only upon a finding in each case that the vehicle is used in responding to emergency calls for fire or law enforcement, for the immediate preservation of life or property, or for the apprehension of law violators.

This bill would authorize the commissioner to issue authorized emergency vehicle permits for vehicles, in a county with a population of 15,000 or less, operated by the chief, assistant chief, or one other uniformed person designated by the chief, of either the county emergency medical services agency, or an agency with which the county contracted for the purposes of local emergency medical services administration, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 2416 of the Vehicle Code is amended to
- 2 read:
- 3 2416. (a) The Commissioner of the California Highway
- 4 Patrol may issue authorized emergency vehicle permits only for

1 the following vehicles, and then only upon a finding in each case
2 that the vehicle is used in responding to emergency calls for fire
3 or law enforcement ~~or, for the immediate preservation of life or~~
4 property, or for the apprehension of law violators:

5 (1) ~~Any~~ A vehicle maintained in whole or in part by the state,
6 a county or a city and privately owned and operated by a
7 marshal, deputy marshal, or person who is a member of, and who
8 receives salary from, and is regularly employed by, a police
9 department or sheriff's department, ~~provided the state, The~~
10 county or city ~~does~~ *may* not furnish ~~to~~ that person a publicly
11 owned authorized emergency vehicle.

12 (2) ~~Any~~ A vehicle owned and operated by a public utility, used
13 primarily to accomplish emergency repairs to utility facilities or
14 used primarily by railroad police officers, who are commissioned
15 by the Governor, in the performance of their duties.

16 (3) Firefighting or rescue equipment designed and operated
17 exclusively ~~as such for those purposes.~~

18 (4) ~~Any~~ A vehicle operated by the chief, assistant chief, or one
19 other uniformed person designated by the chief of a fire
20 department organized as provided in the Health and Safety Code
21 or the Government Code or pursuant to special act of the
22 Legislature.

23 (5) ~~Any~~ A vehicle of an air pollution control district used to
24 enforce provisions of law relating to air pollution from motor
25 vehicles.

26 (6) ~~Any~~ A vehicle operated by the chief of ~~any~~ a fire
27 department established on ~~any~~ a base of the armed forces of the
28 United States.

29 (7) ~~Any~~ A vehicle owned and operated by ~~any~~ a fire company
30 organized pursuant to Part 4 (commencing with Section 14825)
31 of Division 12 of the Health and Safety Code.

32 (8) ~~Privately~~ A *privately* owned ~~ambulances~~ *ambulance*
33 licensed pursuant to ~~Chapter 2.5~~ Article 2 (commencing with
34 Section ~~2500~~) 2510) of Chapter 2.5.

35 (9) ~~Vehicles~~ A *vehicle*, other than a privately owned
36 ~~ambulances~~ *ambulance* used by a privately owned ambulance
37 ~~operators~~ *operator* exclusively to transport medical supplies,
38 lifesaving equipment, or personnel to the scene of an emergency,
39 when a request for medical supplies, lifesaving equipment, or
40 personnel has been made by ~~any~~ a person or public agency

1 responsible for providing emergency medical transportation.
2 ~~These vehicles~~ *The vehicle* shall display a sign or lettering not
3 less than two and one-half inches in height, in a color providing a
4 sharp contrast to its background, on each side showing the name
5 of the ambulance operator.

6 (10) ~~Any~~ A vehicle owned and operated by an office or
7 department of a city, county, or district which is designated by an
8 ordinance adopted by the governing body of that local agency as
9 a hazardous materials response team vehicle for response to
10 hazardous materials emergencies.

11 *(11) A vehicle, in a county with a population of 15,000 or less,*
12 *operated by the chief, assistant chief, or one other uniformed*
13 *person designated by the chief, of either the county emergency*
14 *medical services agency, or an agency with which the county*
15 *contracted for the purposes of local emergency medical services*
16 *administration pursuant to Section 1797.200 of the Health and*
17 *Safety Code.*

18 (b) The commissioner may adopt and enforce regulations to
19 implement this section.

20 (c) Violation of any regulation adopted by the commissioner
21 pursuant to this section is a misdemeanor.